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LETTER DATED 29 SEPTEMBER 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you the text of a letter dated 26 September 1996 addressed to you by Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq, on the subject of the information disseminated on 18 September 1996 by the Reuters Agency.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Letter dated 26 September 1996 from the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General

I wish to communicate to you the text of the information disseminated on 18 September 1996 by the Reuters Agency concerning the statement made by Major-General Gian Giuseppe Santillo, Commander of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM):

Major-General Gian Giuseppe Santillo, Commander of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM), stated that the missile attacks by the United States of America against Iraq constituted a violation of the frontier zone between Iraq and Kuwait. He added that the overflight of the frontier zone by unidentified military aircraft constituted a violation of the demilitarized zone established at the frontier, and that any military attack in that zone constituted a violation. The United Nations observers observed two military aircraft which overflew the zone at low altitude and entered Kuwaiti airspace from the north before turning and flying over the frontier in the direction of Iraq. According to eyewitnesses, the two aircraft appeared to belong to the United States Air Force, which penetrates Iraqi airspace from Kuwaiti territory. The UNIKOM official recalled that the Mission's observers had observed eight cruise missiles fired against Iraq by the United States forces stationed in the Gulf. The UNIKOM spokesman added that the sorties conducted by these aircraft constituted violations of which the Mission had informed United Nations Headquarters.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Tariq AZIZ
Deputy Prime Minister
Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs